

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A razor blade platform comprising:
a base portion;
at least two projections extending from said base portion, each defining at least a pair of approximately parallel spaced apart support surfaces;
each of said support surfaces on one of said projections being approximately laterally aligned with a corresponding one of said support surfaces defined by the other of said projections; and wherein
at least one of said projections includes a slot, open at one end and defined in-part by one of said support surfaces; and wherein said portion of said razor blade is slidably received in said slot;
each of said support surfaces is adapted to carry a portion of a razor blade extending along said razor blade platform.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A razor blade platform as defined by claim-2 1, wherein:
said at least two projections include at least three projections, one positioned adjacent each end of said base portion, and the third projection located therebetween; and wherein said slot is defined by said third projection.
4. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 1 wherein:
said at least two projections include a plurality of projections extending from said base portion, longitudinally thereof, each projection being spaced-apart from the next successive projection; and wherein
each of said support surfaces is approximately aligned with a corresponding support surface defined by the next successive projection.
5. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 4 wherein at least a portion of said plurality of projections define at least one slot, open at one end and defined in-part by one of said support surfaces; and wherein said portion of said razor blade is slidably received in said slot.

6. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 1 wherein said at least two projections each define a plurality of support surfaces.
7. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 5 wherein:
said plurality of projections each define a plurality of support surfaces.
8. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 1 wherein said razor blade platform is unitary and formed from a single piece of material.
9. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 8 wherein said razor blade platform is formed from plastic.
10. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 9 wherein said razor blade platform is injection molded into a single unitary part.
11. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 5 wherein:
said razor blade platform includes generally opposite first and second ends; and
said projections proximate said first and second ends do not define slots.
12. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 11 wherein two successive projections proximate each of said first and second ends do not define slots with the remainder of said plurality of projections each defining at least one slot.
13. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 12 wherein:
each of said projections defines three support surfaces; and said projections that define at least one slot, each define two slots.
14. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 12 wherein:
each of said projections defines four support surfaces; and said projections that define at least one slot, each define three slots.

15. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 1 wherein:
said base portion defines generally opposite first and second ends;
and
a flange is coupled to each of said first and second ends.
16. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 15 wherein said razor blade platform is unitary and formed from a single piece of material.
17. (Original) A razor blade platform as defined by claim 1 wherein said base portion defines at least one aperture extending therethrough to allow shaving debris to be washed from said razor blade platform through said aperture during a shaving operation.
18. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge comprising:
a first cover defining an opening;
a razor blade platform having;
a base portion;
at least two projections extending from said base portion each defining at least a pair of approximately parallel spaced apart support surfaces;
each of said support surfaces on one of said projections being approximately laterally aligned with a corresponding one of said support surfaces defined by the other of said projections;
at least two razor blades, each being carried by at least two of said laterally aligned support surfaces; and
said razor blade platform being coupled to said first cover with said opening being positioned over said razor blades so that at least a portion of cutting edges defined hereby are exposed.
19. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 wherein said razor blade platform is unitary.
20. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 19 wherein said razor blade platform is a single molded piece of polymeric material.

21. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 further comprising a wire wrapped around said razor cartridge and extending over said portions of said cutting edged that are exposed, to minimize the tendency for skin to extrude between successive cutting edges during a shaving operation.
22. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 further comprising:
a second cover coupled to said first cover; and wherein
said razor blade platform is located between said first and second covers.
23. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 22, wherein said second cover defines at least one aperture to allow shaving debris to be washed therethrough during a shaving operation.
24. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 wherein:
said projections are stepped and include an abutment surface extending between successive support surfaces; and wherein each of said razor blades define a rear surface approximately opposite and approximately parallel to said cutting edge; and
said rear surface engages said abutment surface thereby aligning each razor blade relative to the next successive razor blade and to said blade platform.
25. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 wherein:
each of said razor blades are adhered to at least one of said support surfaces.
26. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 18 wherein:
said blade platform having said razor blades coupled thereto is movable relative to said first cover; and wherein said razor cartridge further includes
biasing means for urging said blade platform toward said opening in response to an externally applied force.
27. (Withdrawn) A razor cartridge as defined by claim 26 wherein said biasing means is a spring in engagement with at least one of said first and second covers and in biasing communication with said blade platform.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for loading razor blades into a blade platform for use in a razor cartridge, said method comprising:

providing a blade platform defining at least two support surfaces each adapted to carry a portion of a razor blade, said support surfaces being spaced apart from, offset, and approximately parallel to one another;

providing a blade support defining at least two mating support surfaces positioned to be approximately coincident with said support surfaces defined by said blade platform when said blade platform and said blade support are moved into proximity with one another, said blade support including means for releasably retaining at least two razor blades;

releasably mounting at least two razor blades to said blade support;

moving said blade support into proximity with said blade platform so that a portion of said razor blades releasably mounted to said blade support, engage said support surfaces defined by said razor blade platform;

adhering said razor blades to said razor blade platform; and

moving at least one of said blade support and said razor blade platform away from the other of said blade support and said razor blade platform so that said razor blades remain adhered to said razor blade platform.

29. (Withdrawn) A method as defined by claim 28 wherein:

said blade platform includes at least two abutment surfaces, each adjacent to one of said support surfaces for establishing alignment of said razor blades carried by said support surfaces;

said step of releasably mounting at least two razor blades to said blade support includes frictionally retaining each razor blade adjacent at least a portion of a cutting edge defined thereby so that a rear edge generally opposite said cutting edge is exposed; and wherein

said step moving said blade support further includes causing said rear edge of each razor blade to engage one of said abutment surfaces.

30. (Withdrawn) A method as defined by claim 28 wherein:

prior to said step of moving said blade support, said method includes the further step of placing adhesive onto at least a portion of each of said razor blades;

said step of moving said blade support further includes causing said adhesive placed on said razor blades to contact said support surfaces defined by said razor blade platform; and wherein

said step of adhering further includes at least partially curing said adhesive located between said razor blades and said support surfaces.